

Amendment to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings, of claims in this application:

1–14. (Cancelled)

15–16. (Cancelled)

17–30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) A method for operating a support assembly on a structure having an elevated surface capable of supporting a person moving about on same, the structure comprising a guide mountable on the support surface, a base adapted to engage the guide and capable of movement along said guide while remaining engaged therewith, and a support structure including a first portion that is pivotally connected to the base and a handle with a link spaced away from the based, a lock on the handle for selectively locking the support structure in an intermediate attitude relative to said base at an inclination between a generally upstanding attitude and a generally horizontal attitude, and a braking means for selectively locking the base in a desired position relative to said guide, the method comprising the steps of:

securing a harness with at least a clap to a person;

securing the at least a clap to the link on the handle;

grasping the handle;

grasping the lock for pivotally disengaging the support structure from the base;

pivoting the support structure to a different attitude relative to said base in an intermediate attitude;

releasing the lock for securing the support structure at the different attitude;

engaging the braking means to release the base in relation to the guide;

moving the base in relation to the guide; and

disengaging the braking means to secure the base in relation to the guide.

33. (Previously Presented) The method for operating a support assembly of claim 32, wherein the structure further comprises a ladder adjacent to the support surface, and wherein the method further comprises the steps of climbing the ladder before the step of securing the claps, and the step of stepping of the ladder onto the support surface before the step of disengaging the braking means.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the elevated support surface is a roof.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein a stop is mounted on the guide, and wherein the method further comprises the step of abutting the base against the stop to enable the person for climbing down the ladder while the support assembly is at a preferred position.

36–39. (Cancelled)

40–50. (Cancelled)

51–52. (Cancelled)

53–60. (Cancelled)